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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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JOHN ANDERSON McLEMORE  
WILLIAM MALCOLM MINGEE

The Division of Truck-Crop Insect Investigations has lost two of its highly respected and valuable employees through the brutal murder of J. A. McLemore and W. M. Mingee, Junior Entomologists, in southern Mississippi, February 18, 1926. The bodies of these men were found on the morning of February 19, near the new bridge crossing the Pearl River on the Picayune-Slidell Highway, near the Louisiana State line, about 6 miles from Picayune, Miss., their official station. Complete details regarding the murder have not yet been received, but it seems probable that these two inspectors were mistaken for revenue agents and shot from ambush. Their activities on the day of the murder are only partially known, but their notebooks show that several inspections had been made on that date, and as early as 3 o'clock in the afternoon they visited one of the farmers with whom they were cooperating. Nothing is known regarding their further activities, but since they had informed K. L. Cockerham, who has charge of the sweet-potato weevil project in Mississippi, that they were planning to watch some of the interstate roads for the importation of infested sweet potatoes into that State, it is believed that they were engaged in this work at the time they were killed. This belief is further substantiated by the fact that they had a conspicuously labeled Government truck which marked them as Federal employees. These men, highly efficient in their duties, had gained the confidence and respect of the people of the community in which they lived and the farmers with whom they had to deal, in the very exacting work to which they were assigned. Their loss is severely felt by the Bureau of Entomology and especially by its employees who had personal relations with them.

John Anderson McLemore was born February 10, 1890, at Loyd (Calhoun County), Miss., and graduated from the Mississippi A. & M. College in the class of 1922. He was a World War veteran, going overseas with the 605th Engineers, and in France was transferred to the Eighth Army Corps. Before his appointment to the Bureau of Entomology in January, 1923, he was connected with the Mississippi State Plant Board as an inspector. He leaves a wife and two children.

William Malcolm Mingee was born in Adams County, near Cannonsburg, Miss., August 8, 1887, and graduated from the Mississippi A. & M. College in 1913. He was assistant farm manager and farm manager on banana and cocoa farms for the United Fruit Company of Bocas del Toro, Panama, from January 10, 1914, to August 24, 1915; and County Agent in George County, Miss., from January 15, 1916, to November 15, 1918, in cooperation with the States Relations Service of this Department. He was appointed in the Bureau of Entomology on October 27, 1919, and resigned April 22, 1922, to take up other work. He was reinstated July 7, 1924, and since that time has been connected with the sweet-potato weevil eradication project in southern Mississippi. He leaves a wife and two children.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Division of Tropical and Subtropical Fruit Insect Investigations, temporarily combined with the Division of Deciduous Fruit Insect Investigations, has been given separate status and Dr. A. C. Baker placed in charge.

L. O. Howard, Chief of Bureau.

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### SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Associate Entomologist, Acting in Charge

The following members of this division attended the meeting of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers at Atlanta, Ga., February 2 to 5; B. R. Coad, J. W. Folsom, G. A. Maloney, R. C. Gaines, J. L. Webb, G. M. Armstrong, F. A. Fenton, E. W. Dunnam, A. C. Morgan, and T. E. Holloway. Messrs. Coad, Fenton, and Dunnam presented papers before the Entomological Section. Dr. Folsom presided as toastmaster at the Entomologists' dinner on February 4.

F. C. Bishopp, in charge of the work of the Bureau on insects affecting livestock, gave a series of talks on the external parasites of domestic animals and poultry at the Iowa State College during the Farmers' Short Course, held at Ames, February 1 to 6. At a dinner of the Osborn Research Club of the same institution on the evening of February 1 he gave an illustrated lecture on "Myiasis and related skin afflictions of man in the United States." Especial attention was given to the research work on creeping eruption recently carried out in Florida by W. E. Dove. On the evening of February 2 he presented an illustrated discussion before the Veterinary Club of Iowa State College on the topic "Some facts regarding external parasites of livestock which the veterinarian should know."

The exhibit of the Bureau of Entomology relating to insects affecting dairy cattle, poultry, and hogs has been left in place on the demonstration train. This train will cover the entire mileage of the Cotton Belt Railway throughout the States of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri.

Captain D. L. Van Dine, Director for Cuba of the Tropical Plant Research Foundation, visited the Sugarcane Insect Laboratory in February for conference concerning future projects.

Last fall a Louisiana sugar planter was able to save a good deal of money by referring to the records of the Sugarcane Insect Laboratory, which proved that the damage he suffered from the sugarcane moth borer in 1925 was no worse than usual. Because of alleged excessive damage, the factory buying his cane insisted on paying less than the regular price, but when it was shown by the Bureau records that the cane of this particular planter was not unusually damaged he was granted the price for good cane.

T. E. Holloway and W. E. Haley, cooperating with L. L. Janes, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, estimate that the damage to sugarcane in 1925 caused by the sugarcane moth borer was 30 per cent of a full crop. Only once previously since 1912 has the loss by the borer reached this figure. A certain plantation which followed one of the recommendations of the Sugarcane Insect Laboratory suffered only about half that loss.

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#### TAXONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS

S. A. Rohwer, Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. Wm. A. Hoffman and Dr. Clay Huff, of the School of Tropical Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., visited the Division of Insects, U. S. National Museum, to examine the collection of biting flies and to consult with Dr. Aldrich.

This year Dr. Böving has again received a very valuable addition to the Museum collection. Seventy-seven vials containing coleopterous larvae, most of the material having been reared, were sent him by E. Rosenberg of Copenhagen, Denmark.

C. F. W. Muesebeck and R. Brown, of the Gipsy Moth Laboratory, Melrose Highlands, Mass., spent some time in the Museum in the last week of February. This visit was incidental to preparations for a visit to Europe on parasite work.

In February a small but extremely valuable collection, comprising about 150 specimens of holotypes and paratypes of 23 species of parasitic Hymenoptera belonging to the superfamily Chalcidoidea, were received by A. B. Gahan for the National Collection. They include representatives, in most cases holotypes, of all of the species thus far described by Harold Compere, of the California Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, Calif., a rising young chalcidologist, who has contributed them.

Paratypes of three species of Chalcidoidea described by P. H. Timberlake, also of the California Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside, were likewise recently added to the collection. Mr. Timberlake, whose work in this group is well known, has consistently followed the practice of depositing representatives of his species in the National Collection.

## TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Entomologist, in Charge

W. E. Stone, Assistant Entomologist, has been transferred from Tampa to Sanford, Fla., where he will be engaged in cooperative control experiments against the celery leaf-tyer..

L. W. Brannon, Junior Entomologist, Birmingham, Ala., attended in the early part of February the meeting of the Cotton States Entomologists at Atlanta, Ga., where he discussed the Mexican bean beetle problem.

Walter Carter, Associate Entomologist, Twin Falls, Idaho, visited Washington, D. C., in the early part of February, to confer with Bureau officials and others regarding the work under way on the sugar-beet leafhopper in the intermountain region, and formulate plans for its future conduct. He also consulted with specialists of the Weather Bureau and the Bureau of Standards.

W. A. Thomas, Assistant Entomologist, Chadbourn, N. C., visited Brunswick, Ga., to conduct experiments on mole crickets injuring golf courses. The Jekyl Island Golf Club is cooperating in this work.

J. E. Dudley, Jr., Associate Entomologist, Madison, Wis., addressed the Madison Gyro Club at its noon luncheon on February 16 on the subject "The Economic Importance of Insects in the United States."

Kenneth E. Gibson has been temporarily appointed Field Assistant at Toppenish, Wash., to aid M. C. Lane and others in wireworm investigations.

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## BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

James I. Hambleton, Apiculturist, in Charge

In February Jas. I. Hambleton participated in beekeepers' meetings in Utah, South Dakota, and North Dakota, as well as in the Short Course held by Purdue University.

E. L. Sechrist was on the program of the Short Course held at Ames, Iowa, on February 3 to 5.

Dr. A. P. Sturtevant was one of the speakers at the Beekeepers' Short Course given by Ohio State University on February 4 and 5.

Miss Hilda S. Black has been given a temporary appointment as Junior Biologist in the Bureau of Entomology, for the purpose of working on certain phases of the food value of honey. This work is being done in cooperation with the Bureau of Home Economics.

## FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATION.

F. C. Craighead, Entomologist, in Charge

Chemically treated material is being assembled for the model termite-proof demonstration building to be erected on Barro Colorado Island, Canal Zone, Panama, by the American Wood Preservers' Association and the National Research Council, in consultation with the Bureau of Entomology. It is hoped that this building will be in place on the site by July 1, 1926. Near by will be the "graveyard," as the plot used for service tests of woods treated with various wood preservatives has been jocularly named.

The manager of the Francisco Sugar Plantation, Francisco, Prov. de Oriente, Cuba, states that damage to seed cane caused by termites can be prevented by dipping the cane in kerosene oil.

Damage by *Kaloterpes* in Florida to black locust insulator pegs has been reported by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company; similar damage occurs on the Pacific Coast. These insulator pegs high on the pole are usually the only untreated wood used, the pole and cross arms being impregnated with coal-tar creosote.

Several cases of "powder-post" beetle injury to furniture by imported European anobiid beetles have recently been found in this country. In one instance living lepidopterous larvae of unknown species were found in the infested furniture, utilizing the burrows of the powder-post beetles.

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## CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. H. Larrimer, Entomologist, in Charge

L. H. Worthley, D. J. Caffrey, and K. W. Babcock visited Washington on February 13, on business concerned with European corn borer activities. Mr. Caffrey and Mr. Babcock remained several days, making arrangements for further ecological work on the insect in Europe.

Dr. W. J. Phillips and A. M. Vance, of the Charlottesville, Va., laboratory, and Dr. Philip Luginbill, of the Columbia, S. C., station, were Washington visitors in February.

George G. Ainslie attended the meeting of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, at Atlanta, Ga., the first week of February.

Dr. W. H. Larrimer visited Atlantic City on February 17 and 18, to confer with Arthur Gibson, of the Canadian Department of Agriculture, who was attending a meeting there of the New Jersey Mosquito Extermination Association.

Claude Wakeland, Entomologist of Idaho, visited the laboratory at Toppenish, Wash., February 19, and inspected the wireworm work conducted by M. C. Lane, in charge of the station. Mr. Wakeland and Mr. Lane arranged some experiments in control of wireworms, which Mr. Wakeland is planning to conduct at Parma, Idaho.

M. C. Lane visited the Horticultural Schools at Walla Walla and Clarkston, Wash., on February 5 and 6, and participated informally in the programs. At Walla Walla about 100 vegetable and fruit growers were present, and at Clarkston about 30 of the same class of farmers were in attendance. They all displayed great interest in the wireworm and methods of controlling it.

Prof. W. C. O'Kane and M. F. Crowell called at the Arlington laboratory on February 5 for a conference regarding the progress of the cooperative work on the corn borer between the Bureau and the New Hampshire Experiment Station.

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#### LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

#### NEW BOOKS

Alexander, C. P.

An entomological survey of the Salt Fork of the Vermillion River in 1921, with a bibliography of aquatic insects. Illinois Dept. of Registration and Education. Division of Natural History. Bulletin 15, Art. 8, pp. 439-535, Oct. 1925.

Balachowsky, A.

Note sur deux prédateurs du *Parlatoria blanchardi* Targ. [*Cybocephalus seminulum* Baudi. and *C. flaviceps* Reitt.], et sur leur utilisation en vue de la lutte biologique contre ce coccide. Bulletin de la Société d'Histoire Naturelle de l'Afrique du Nord, t. 16, No. 6, pp. 167-172, VIII pls., 1925.

Blake, E. G.

Enemies of timber; dry rot and the death watch beetle. London, Chapman & Hall, Ltd., 1925. 206 pp., pl.

Brazil, Vital, and Vellard, J.

Contribucao ao estudo do veneno das aranhas. Sao Paulo (Brasil) 1925. Memorias do Instituto de Butantan, vol. 2, fasc. 1, pp. 5-77.

Calkins, G. N.

The biology of the Protozoa. Phila. & N. Y., Lea & Febiger, 1926. 623 pp., illus. Bibliography, pp. 585-598.

Colorado State Entomologist. Annual report 16 ... for 1924. Fort Collins, Colo., Office of the State Entomologist, June, 1925. 77 pp., illus. (Colorado State Entomologist Circular 47.)

Curren, Howard.

Contribution to a monograph of the Syrphidae (Diptera) from north of Mexico. University of Kansas Bulletin, vol. 26, No. 7, Apr. 1, 1925. (Science Bulletin v. 5, Nos. 1-6, p. 5-216.)

Forbush, E. H.

... Birds of Massachusetts. Boston, Mass., Issued by authority of the Legislature, 1925. Vol. 1, illus. [Pt. 1 treats of water birds, marsh birds and shore birds.]

Gage, S. H.

The microscope. An introduction to microscopic methods and to histology. Ed. 14. Ithaca, N. Y., The Comstock Publishing Company, 1925. 516 pp., illus. Bibliography, pp. 491-498.

Grouvelle, A.

... Clavicornes. Temnochilidae, Ostomidae, Passandridae et Cucujidae. Paris, Librairie des sciences naturelles, L. Lhomme, 1923, pp. 243-274. (Voyage de Ch. Alluaud et R. Jeannel en Afrique orientale 1911-1912. Resultats scientifiques. Insectes coléoptères XVII.)

Heinrich, Carl.

Revision of the North American moths of the subfamilies Laspeyresiinae and Olethreutinae. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1926. 216 pp., 76 pls. (Smithsonian institution, U. S. National Museum, Bulletin 132.)

Kramer, Ulrich.

Die Rassenzucht der schweizen Inker... 6 aufl. Aarau, Im selbst Verlag des Vereins deutschschweizerische Bienenfreunde, Druck Graph-Werkstätten H. R. Sauerlände & Co., 1924. 128 pp., illus.

Lees, A. H.

Egg-killing washes. Univ. of Bristol Agr. and Hort. Research Station. Annual Report, 1924, pp. 51-60.

Prashad, B.

Anatomy of the common Indian apple snail, Pila globosa. Calcutta, Published by the Director, Zoological Survey of India, June, 1925, 89-151 pp. pls. 16-18. (Memoirs of the Indian Museum vol. 8, No. 3.)

Quebec Society for the protection of Plants.

Annual Report 17, 1924-1925. Quebec, A. Proulx, King's printer, 1925. 88 pp., illus. 7 plates.

Snodgrass, R. E.

The morphology of insect sense organs and the sensory nervous system. Washington, Smithsonian Institution, 1926. 80 pp., 32 figs. (Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 77, No. 8. Publication No. 2831.)

Spaeth, F.

Cassidinae... Paris, Librairie des Sciences Naturelles, L. Lhomme, 1924. pp. 277-363. (Voyage de Ch. Alluaud et R. Jeannel en Afrique orientale, 1911-1912. Resultats scientifiques. Insectes coléoptères XVIII.)

Winterbottom, D. C.

Weevil in wheat and storage of grain in bags; a record of Australian experience during the war period (1915-1919). Adelaide, R. E. E. Rogers, Gov't Printer, 1922. 122 pp., illus., tab.

